



National Interagency Fire Center

3838 S. Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

August 10, 2005

To: Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs

From: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

Subject: S420 Mentoring Candidates

On June 30, 2005 the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC) agreed to allow Type 1 Incident Management Teams (IMTs) up to six S520 candidates that would not be counted as part of the six trainees or in the team total of 33 members.

We received correspondence requesting that Type 2 IMTs also be allowed to carry up to six "S420 candidates" that would not be counted as part of the six trainees or in the team total of 33 members. While support of Type 2 IMTs is primarily the responsibility of the Geographic Areas, NMAC recognizes the importance of maintaining the ability to recruit and fill Type 2 IMTs.

NMAC has agreed to honor this request. The Geographic Areas are encouraged to work with their Type 2 Incident Commanders to assign the "S420 candidates" to the teams. Teams will be allowed to carry up to six candidates. The candidates will be listed on the team roster and that information will be forwarded to the ordering unit and the Agency Administrator when a team is dispatched.

The "420 candidates" cannot fill vacant positions on the teams. They must be actively mentored for the specific position for which they will train at the next S420 class.

Throughout this process we will continue to evaluate the issue of IMT recruitment and support, including trainees and mentoring candidates. Thank you for working with us on these important issues.

/s/ Don Artley
Chair, NMAC